

Patent Assignment Abstract of Title

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Inventor: Francois Lacombe

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TRANSLATION

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference MGCBI116551		FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/FR2006/000132	International filing date (day/month/year) 20.01.2006	Priority date (day/month/year) 21.01.2005	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC F04C18/02			
Applicant V.G.B. (VULLIEZ GESTION BREVETS)			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:

☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/FR2006/000132

Box No. I

Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ the translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4(a))
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:

pages 1-9 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

- ☒ the claims:

nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished

nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

nos.* 1-11 received by this Authority on 25.11.2006 with letter of 23.11.2006

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

- ☒ the drawings:

sheets 1/2, 2/2 as originally filed/furnished

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☒ the claims, nos. 12

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)			
Reference is made to the following document:			
D1: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2003, no. 12, 5 December 2003 (2003-12-05) & JP 2004 197568 A (MATSUSHITA ECOLOGY SYSTEMS CO LTD), 15 July 2004 (2004-07-15).			
1. The subject matter of independent claim 1 of the present application fulfils the PCT requirements of novelty (PCT Article 33(2)) and inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).			
Document D1, which is considered to be the closest prior art, describes a scroll compressor from which the vacuum pump as per the subject matter of claim 1 differs in that:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">the two spiral-shaped projections have an axial clearance controlled by the crank arrangement;axial forces exerted on the pump are taken up essentially by the cranks;the motor is attached to a plate parallel to			

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

the mobile disc; and

- said plate has recesses for a shaft of each crank.

The technical effect of these distinctive features is to provide a vacuum pump in which axial stress is under control.

The problem that the present invention is intended to solve can, therefore, be considered to be that of providing a vacuum pump with enhanced reliability.

None of the distinctive features is disclosed in the available documents or considered to be part of standard technical practice. In the compressor described in D1, the motor is attached to the housing and comprises bearings that contribute substantially to controlling axial clearance and withstanding axial forces.

It follows that there is no indication in the prior art that could prompt a person skilled in the art to solve the problem as proposed in claim 1. The subject matter of claim 1 is, therefore, novel and involves an inventive step.

2. Claims 2-11 are all dependent on claim 1 and relate to preferred embodiments of the invention. As a result, the subject matter of these claims is also considered to be novel and to involve an

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

inventive step.

3. The subject matter of the claims in the present application can be used commercially.